to withdraw the army from the affected areas of Punjab.

Allotment of LPG agencies to freedom fighters

*107. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria for allotment of LPG agencies to ex-servicemen and freedom fighters;

(b) whether any special quota is allowed; if so, what is the number of applications received by Government and also those considered so far; and

(c) what is the target for allotment of such agencies during the year 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) A special quota of 7½ per cent and 5 per cent of the total planned LPG distributorships are reserved for Defence Category including ex-Servicemen and Freedom Fighters respectively. Applications in this regard are received by the concerned selection agency and no record is maintained by the Government of such applications. The eligibility criteria for these categories are indicated below:

	Defence	Freedom Fighters
1. Nationality	Indian	Indian
2. Age Minimum Maximum	21 years 50 years	No age limit
3. Education	Matriculation or recognised equivalent	Not applicable
4. Residence	Any district in the State	Concerned District in the State
5. Income	Not exceeding Rs. 50,000 per annum	Not exceeding Rs. 50,000 per annum

In addition to the above, the candidates should produce proper documentary evidence of their being a freedom fighter, like Tamrapatra, Pension Payment Order, etc.

(c) The number of LPG dealerships will be as per the above percentages of reservation for these categories out of the total dealerships in the approved LPG Marketing Plan.

अधिक भाषाओं को संवैधानिक दर्जा

*108 **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :**
श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार मणिपुरी, नेपाली, कोंकणी, डोगरी आदि जैसी कुछ और भाषाओं को संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची में शामिल करने के लिए संविधान, संशोधन विधेयक पुरःस्थापित करने पर विचार कर रही है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और यह विधेयक कब तक पुरः स्थापित किये जाने की संभावना है ?

गृह मंत्री (श्री एस० बी० चव्हाण) : (क) और (ख) इस प्रश्न पर सरकार द्वारा विचार किया जा रहा है।

Loss of forest in Jammu and Kashmir

*109. SHRI SHABBIR AHMED SALARIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in he Daily Kashmir Times, Jammu of the 31st May, 1992 under the caption "JK may lose entire forest".

(b) what steps Government are taking to put a stop to felling of trees in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) whether the ban on felling of trees has been relaxed, if so, the reasons therefor and when; and

(d) whether Government propose to impose the ban on felling of trees effectively in Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following steps have been taken by the State Govt. to stop felling of trees in J & K:—

(i) Commercial felling of trees in specified catchments in both Jammu and Kashmir regions have been banned since 15-1-1990.

(ii) Jammu and Kashmir Forest (Conservation) Act, 1990 has been enacted to check indiscriminate diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes.

(iii) The State Govt. have proposed to reduce the annual yield from 8.57 lacs cubic metre prescribed in the working plans to 1.43 lacs cubic metre in 1992-93.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The State Government of Jammu and Kashmir have informed that the ban on felling of trees is being effectively imposed.

Manufacture on N-Paraffin

*110. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has agreed to the manufacture of N-Paraffin from kerosene originally proposed by the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No investment approval was given by the Government to Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., to set up facilities for manufacture of N-Paraffin from Kerosene.

(b) Does not arise.

ONGC output target

*111. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI CHIMAN BHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC output target has been cut by 7 MT due to natural decline in oil reserves in Bombay High and fields of North Gujarat, if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what would be the extra foreign exchange burden due to this cut;

(c) whether it is also a fact that expansion of Hazira Complex is not yet cleared;

(d) what are the reasons for delay and what losses are occurring due to delay; and

(e) what are the details regarding expansion of Hazira Complex indicating investment, categories of projects etc.?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The estimated cost of Hazira terminal expansion is Rs. 952.99 crores including foreign exchange component of Rs. 558.80 crores, and it would expand the capacity of the terminal from 20 MMSCMD to 41 MMSCMD. The proposal is being processed for approval.